WHIRRAKEE

November 2001 Vol. 22 No.10

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE BENDIGO FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB

Bendigo Field Naturalists Club Inc.

Address for correspondence: PO Box 396, Bendigo 3552

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Membership of the Bendigo Field Naturalists Club is open to all those interested in Natural History. The subscription rates are: Single $34; Family $40; Concession: Single $28.50; Family $34. *Whirrakee* subscription only is $34. These rates include GST.

General meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. The venue for General meetings is the Golden Square Senior Citizens Building, Old High Street, Golden Square. Meetings start at 7:30pm and conclude with supper. The Annual Meeting is held in September.

Committee meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm. Members of the Committee are the Office Bearers listed above, together with the following members:
Kate Lottkowitz; Trevor Marshall; Rob Moors, Jan Orr, Stan Pelczynski; Bob Ruddick

Excursions The assembly point for excursions is the Golden Square Senior Citizens Building, unless otherwise specified. Full-day excursions normally commence at 10am (usually on a Sunday); half-day excursions normally commence at 2pm and may be either on a Saturday or Sunday. Full-day or half-day excursions are usually held on the weekend following the General Meeting. Campouts are held several times each year, usually coinciding with long weekends or holiday periods.

The Bendigo Field Naturalists Club has one active sub-group:

Mammal Study Group: meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm in the Golden Square Senior Citizens Building.

Chairman: John Burtonclay, Fadersons Lane, Mandurang (5439 5710)
Secretary: Bill Holsworth, 13 Nabilla Crs., Bendigo (5443 4063)
Equipment Officer: Maurie Lewis (0407 427179)

Front Cover: Photographer: Jan Orr

Native Boxthorn (*Lycium australe*) is easy to distinguish from weed species of Boxthorn from South Africa - they are dark green and grow taller and larger in every respect, while Native Boxthorn grows to only about 1.5 metres tall and has an overall greyish appearance. Apart from these obvious differences, you are very fortunate if you ever see Native Boxthorn because it is so rare, while, in contrast, African Boxthorn is all too common throughout our part of the region.

.....Continued on page 3

WHIRRAKEE

Monthly Newsletter of the Bendigo Field Naturalist Club

Vol. 22, No. 10, November 2001

Whirrakee takes its name from the Whirrakee Wattle (*Acacia williamsonii*) which is virtually endemic to the Bendigo region

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Authors are responsible for the accuracy of the information they use and also for any opinions expressed in their articles.
Contributions will be included as soon as possible after they are received, although articles received more than one week after the monthly General Meeting will probably be too late for inclusion in the next issue of *Whirrakee*.
Articles in *Whirrakee* may be reproduced, but permission should be obtained from the Bendigo Field Naturalists Club, and acknowledgment should be given to the author and the Club. Some back issues are still available on request.

Editors' Note
In this issue we have another response to one of our contributions. It is a very positive sign that people are responding to articles they read in the Whirrakee. We fully support what Darren Green and Jenny Shield et al. have written and should be very pleased if we got some more discussion going on these topics. Jenny Shield has submitted a short response to Jon Cuddy's letter in this issue with a longer one coming next month Darren Green, who did not get a chance to respond to the letter by Bendigo Mining at the time, thinks "So long as a mining company has a mining license for an area, there is the potential to mine it. Are they prepared to revoke their license?".....just keep those letters coming!
Another good thing is that the next BFNC publication, this time on spiders, will be coming out shortly. So, save up your money as these will make excellent presents.
At the last committee meeting, the format of the general meetings was discussed as it was felt that the meetings are getting a bit too long. One way of shortening the meetings would be to ask for written rather than oral reports . Written reports of members activities etc. could then be printed in the Whirrakee for everybody to read. Any comments are welcome, as always.

Native Boxthorn Author: Rod Orr

.....continued from inside front cover:

The photograph below (taken by Jan Orr near Quambatook) shows a clump of about 50 individual plants of Native Boxthorn, which is a rare and threatened native plant in Victoria. It occurs 100 km or so North of Bendigo in the Mallee region.
If you look carefully you will see that, unfortunately for these plants, they are growing on an active rabbit warren and so they are threatened with destruction as 'rabbit harbour'. This is a common fate for any remnants of native vegetation which manage to survive along roadsides or fence lines in farming country.
The challenge is to devise methods of controlling rabbits and destroying their burrows while protecting remnant native vegetation and then to convince farmers and other land managers to change their ways.

Environment Study Morning

Kennington Primary School - Grades 3 & 4

Date: November 11 (Wednesday)
Time: 9:15am to 12:15

Bendigo Field Naturalists, Natural Resources and Environment, and Catchment Management Authority staff will be conducting Environment Study Groups at Kennington Reservoir.
NRE will be studying the Bushland Reserve, CMA will conduct a Pond Life water activity and BFNC will conduct 2 Water Bird and Lake Habitat activities and one Bushland Habitat activity.

We are looking for helpers to participate in running these activities during what should be an enjoyable morning's work with these children.

Please contact Jan Orr (phone 54 435668) if you are able to help in any way.

Adopt-a-Highway Program

by Matthew Comer

On Sunday 21st October, eight club members helped with the ongoing effort to remove litter from along the highway at Huntly. Once again numerous bags of rubbish were collected. While collecting the rubbish amongst the diverse roadside vegetation, we noted a number of plants flowering. The common Rice Flower (*Pimelea humilis*), Golden Pennants (*Glischocaryon behrii*), Sticky Everlasting (*Bracteantha viscosa*) and Grey Everlasting (*Ozothamnus obcordatus*) were particularly showy. There are also some impressive stands of Soft Spear Grass (*Austrostipa mollis*) and a number of large Green Mallee trees (*Eucalyptus viridis*). One plant not recorded on our previous visits was the Slender Westringia (*Westringia eremicola*) of which there is a small colony.

Thank you to all those who contributed to another successful clean-up effort

Death in the Afternoon

Author: Bill Holsworth

The late September day was sunny, the temperature perfect and the forests at Toolangi were at their best. The rushing water of the Murrendindi River, the glossy dark green leaves and red stems of the mountain pepper (*Tasmannia lanceolata*), and the small white flowers on long thin stems of the bootlace bush (*Pimelea axiflora*), reinforced the appreciation that we were in a much wetter forest that the box-ironbark woodlands around Bendigo. After a long walk on the Murrindindi River Track in the morning, a quiet lunch and a cup of tea, we drove to the Cascades for another walk. We admired the water surging over the rocks, the ferns and mosses. We crossed over the river and started out for another enjoyable walk along the Murrindindi River.

Not more than 100m past the cascades I heard what sounded like a bit of bark falling through the upper branches of a mountain ash. I looked up and noted that we were passing a very large old tree. I took a few steps forward, past a small shrub, to get a better view. I was most surprised to see, high up, a greater glider hanging on to the leafy twigs of a branch. Carol and I watched as it attempted to climb to a more secure position, then lose its grip on the twigs, and glide down to a sapling by the trail less than 3 m from where we were standing. Again it tried briefly to position itself before slipping to the ground, almost at our feet.

Just then the first of about 25 orienteering enthusiasts came along the trail. Several groups of 4 or 5, each with their maps, compasses, and determined looks, passed us while we stood to the side and admired the tree. One young woman noted, "Oh, it is indeed a very nice old tree." But not one saw the greater glider lying within a metre of the trail. Neither did they pay any attention to the blowflies at were gathering around the animal. In 3 or 4 minutes the last of these Melbourne bush-walkers had passed. The glider remained still. With a small twig I touched the animal's eye and the lack of response confirmed what I suspected. The greater glider was dead.

I picked it up and saw that the skin on the left shoulder was cut and fly blown. The female was very thin indicating that she had not been feeding adequately for some weeks. Before her injury, possibly caused by an owl, she carried a large joey in her pouch. Holding on to her tail I carried the limp animal back to the car. On the way we met two more map carrying rogainers, but they demonstrated no interest in the large fluffy black and white animal. I photographed it, measured and weighed it, and put it in the caravan's freezer so that I could take it home and prepare a museum study skin and skeleton.

For a wild animal to die is not unusual. Every animal born, or hatched, dies. We have all seen animals hit by a car, fly into window, be caught by a predator, and die. Seldom do we find a small dead animal in the forest. They die, are consumed by fly larvae and ants, and are buried by beetles or covered by falling leaves. For an animal to come out of a tree and die at your feet is a very rare event.

At home, as I worked quietly skinning the animal and removing the muscle tissue from the skeleton, I thought more about this glider. Its head and body measured 405mm, slightly shorter than the average measurement reported in Hyett and Shaw, but the tail was 535mm, slightly longer than average. Clearly it was a fairly ordinary adult animal, except that it had no fat and the muscles had wasted. Under the skin of the large clean pouch was a mass of mammary tissue, clear evidence that she had been nursing a joey born in July. Pouch life should have lasted 4 months, but this time it was less than 2 months.(For more on the life history of the greater glider see my article in the Whirrakee July 1995.) The 120mm cut in its shoulder laid bare the muscles of its scapula and upper arm. One of the major muscles on the scapula was torn and fly blown as was the triceps on the upper arm. The margins of the cut skin were rotting. Similar grizzly facts could be written about the last days of many animals that get injured by a predator, suffer broken bones when they miss their landing spot, or get injured in a territorial fight. The lucky ones get killed outright by an owl.

The evening before our encounter with the greater glider I sat in our caravan reading several articles in, "The Wildlife Society Bulletin" (Summer 2001). Topics ranged from estimating rabbit numbers in Spain, nest boxes in cottonwood trees, human dimensions of landscapes, to incorporating non-human knowledge into the philosophy of science. Two articles became particularly relevant: "For whom do we manage wildlife: the resource, society, or future generations?" and, "Drowning is not euthanasia". Rather than summarise the articles you can think about how you would discuss these topics.

Naturalists, hunters, farmers, Park managers, biological scientists, etc., have many reasons for

being concerned about the welfare of animals. We like to see healthy animals moving about freely in their natural habitat. We can't help being anthropomorphic when we see a wild animal being chased by a predator. Since we wouldn't want that to happen to us our first response is to interfere and rescue the distressed animal, even if that means killing the predator. As a farm boy in Canada I could collect a bounty for killing crows, hawks, owls and coyotes, - all bad animals. When we set out to protect nature we should ask, 'for whom do we manage wildlife?' This question also pertains to the activities of the Wildlife Rescue groups. The activities and policies of the Humane Society should also pressure us to think about what we mean by "humane", "euthanasia", and "ethics", and consider our attitudes with a full appreciation of how animals die in the forest.

Reports of Members Activities

Author: Barbara Pelczynska

SPRING IN THE BENDIGO BUSH

Spring in the Bendigo Bush Committee met on the 10th of October for an evaluation.
The feed back reports showed that all events this year were well attended. The Wildflower Show, however continues to be the main attraction.
There was good coverage in the media both before and during the activities.
The Committee decided to start the planning meetings next year in April instead of May so that the leaflets can be distributed earlier.

The committee expressed thanks to all who participated.

If anyone has a good idea for an event for next year please let the Spring in the Bendigo Bush Committee know through our Club's Committee or Anthony Sheean.

CAMPASPE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE WORKSHOP

On Wednesday 17th of October, 2001 Bill Holsworth and I attended a workshop on the development of the concept of a Box-Ironbark Interpretive Centre for Central Victoria.

The workshop was convened by the North Central Catchment Management Authority with the aim of identifying the role of such a centre, the types of activities it may offer and benefits that may flow from it.
The NCCMA will be reporting to us on the results of the workshop and the future activities that may arise from it.

BENDIGO ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH FORUM. 19th October, 2001.

The Bendigo Field Naturalist Club was invited to take part in the first Bendigo Environmental Youth Forum which was held on Friday 19th October 2001 at the Life Adventure Park in East Bendigo.
Around 200 secondary students took part. The forum was the brain child of Kim Seller and Allison Hughes from LEAF (LaTrobe Environmental Action Forum) who set up a committee of young people including several secondary students with assistance and sponsorship of the City of Greater Bendigo, Bendigo Mining and Coliban Water.
The program included workshops, seminars, displays and a rock concert during lunch break.

BFNC provided displays on the Club's activities, Box-Ironbark Forest and a workshop on litter invertebrates in the Box-Ironbark Forest conducted by Jenny Shield.

We congratulate the organisers. The whole day was excellent and we are looking forward to another BEYF next year.

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL FLORAL FESTIVAL October 17th - 21st 2001.

Jane Cleary with Joanne Smith had an interesting display of Biblical plants in the requiem chapel, on the theme

"And he said: Let the earth bring forth the green herb, and such as may seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after its kind, which may have seed in itself upon the earth. And it was so done."

Jane concentrated on plants and their fruits and seeds, which were used in the middle East, in the Holy Land in Biblical times. We still continue to grow and eat some of these seeds and fruits today.
The whole cathedral was filled with flowers. The flower arrangements were beautiful and expertly arranged.

Personally I found it sad that, as far as could see, only few native and no indigenous plants were used.

In response to the "Survey of Habitat Trees and Stumps" Article by Shield *et al.* which appeared in the October *Whirrakee*.

Author: Jon Cuddy, Acting Senior Forest Management Officer, Bendigo. Regional Services Division.

Dear Editor

I would like to comment on the article by Jenny Shield to clarify NRE's approach to habitat tree marking in State Forest timber harvesting coupes.

NRE recognises that following a long history of settlement and timber utilisation the resultant Box-Ironbark forests have been heavily modified. Current forest condition can be characterised as essentially regrowth in nature. More natural diameter distributions would show a wider range of classes, particularly in the larger classes.

In the late 1980's NRE introduced habitat tree management prescriptions as an initial approach to managing the co-existence of timber production with improved habitat management, consistent with the relevant Land Conservation Council Recommendations. Around 1995 NRE initiated the Box-Ironbark Timber Assessment (BITA) for the Bendigo Forest Management Area. Data collected was extended from the traditional sawlog data to provide estimates of the range of products, but also, for the first time, to collect information on hollows.

Most recently NRE has taken a major step forward in the development of models for projecting future forest growth based on individual tree data. Models used previously were based on aggregated stand data, and did not allow examination of the impact of strategies on diameter distributions and hollow-bearing trees.

The comments above are provided for context, and to show NRE's long standing commitment to management of forest structure. In terms of forest growth processes these are all recent innovations, but provide significant improvements to our knowledge and our tools.

The timber inventory data, in conjunction with the growth models, assist with establishing harvesting limits at a broad regional scale. Additional measures are required at the local scale. This is the role of the habitat tree retention sections of the management prescriptions.

At the level of discrete harvesting areas, or coupes, NRE's approach for Box-Ironbark forests is to identify the most suitable habitat trees before selection for sawlog utilisation occurs. Habitat trees are chosen on various criteria, with current hollows as the highest priority, large crowns as the next and potential for future hollow development as the next criterion. These criteria are applied within diameter classes to allow recruitment of the most suitable future habitat trees.

Emphasis is placed on operations where trees larger than 40 cm are being removed, as the forest inventory data indicate the number of trees in smaller classes are well in excess of those required to maintain future forests. This approach ensures that sufficient trees are retained in larger classes to allow the forest to continue to mature.

I would also like to comment on some specific aspects of the BDEC report.

Although the prescriptions refer to per hectare numbers, greater scope for the retention of the most suitable habitat trees is achieved by using a whole of coupe approach. The area of the coupe is multiplied by the per hectare requirement to produce an overall target. This approach is highlighted in the prescriptions to allow for irregular distribution. NRE counted all marked trees over the whole of the coupe, not just on a sample. **Sufficient trees were marked and retained to ensure compliance with the prescriptions. Many trees that were not marked were also retained.**

NRE has investigated whether research supports uniform distribution of habitat trees, or clumping. Internal advice to date is that retention of the best trees, wherever they occur in a coupe, is the best strategy based on current knowledge.

On overwhelming majority of trees larger than 60 cm DBH were retained. BDEC extrapolate from stump diameters that a small percentage of trees larger than 60 cm DBH may have been removed. NRE staff supervising the operation did not mark any trees greater than 60 cm DBH for removal in this coupe due to our consideration of the current forest structure. The prescriptions allow removal of trees less than 80 cm DBH, subject to sufficient trees being available to meet the guidelines.

Trees in the 20 - 40 cm class are not painted, as the habitat values are much less obvious and the operations are not targetting trees in this size range. Numbers retained for other reasons are in excess of requirements. BDEC sampling data shows that the marked habitat trees are in the

larger classes.

In closing, I would like to assure concerned community members that NRE staff observe the prescriptions in good faith. The statement that hollow-bearing trees are being systematically removed is strongly refuted.

Short response to Jon Cuddy's letter to the Editor of *Whirakee*

by Jenny Shield (for Wellsford Watch)

Wellsford Watch's survey of Coupe 05/151/003/0009 raises the question: how seriously does NRE take its responsibility to preserve habitat in the Wellsford Forest? This question is not answered in Jon Cuddy's letter to *Whirrakee.* Jon Cuddy did not cite any evidence to support his statement that sufficient habitat trees were marked, or his implication that the uneven distribution of habitat trees shown by the Wellsford Watch Survey was the result of an initial uneven distribution of available trees, nor his "refutation" that hollow trees were not systematically removed. We would like to see a copy of NRE's records for Coupe 05/151/003/0009 showing the numbers of marked habitat trees in each size class and where they are in the coupe. Without this information, the results of our survey are the best figures in the public arena, and they show clearly that NRE did not follow the prescriptions.

Our full response will appear in the next edition of *Whirrakee.*

Hartland's Eucalyptus Distillery – A National Treasure

Author: Peter Ellis

On the 18/9/01 Peter Ellis sent this letter to The City of Greater Bendigo with copies to Bendigo Field Naturalists Club, Jacinta Allan MLA Bendigo East, Mr Jeff Hartland Whipstick Eucalyptus Distillery & Historic Farm, La Trobe University, Bendigo.
The letter below is reproduced here for your interest

Dear Sir,

I was Hon Secretary for the Bendigo Field Naturalists Club over a four year period in the early 1970's and instrumental with other leaders of the club for the conservation of the Whipstick area and proposals to maintain much of the greenbelt of forest surrounding Bendigo. It was also my privilege to accompany the late Mr Frank Robbins who carried out flora survey mapping which also included the documentation of sites of former mallee fowl nests, puddling machines and old eucalyptus factory sites.

My training is in industrial chemistry and I worked as Technical Officer for many years at the old Bendigo Institute of Technology and the newer La Trobe University until retirement recently.
I consider myself reasonably well versed on many aspects relating to the Whipstick.

Firstly I commend the Environmental Conservation Council's recommendation for a Greater National Park around Bendigo and my only regret is Wellsford Forest was not included.

Secondly it is more likely efficient staffing and administration of a National Park will ensure better implementation of on site management, ranger supervision, fire protection, education facilities, tourist information and guidance. National Parks have a very good reputation in my opinion.

In contrast much of the local bushland to date has not been adequately managed due to staff cuts and lack of finance over recent decades. I was appalled to see the damage occurring on the boundary areas of One Tree Hill Regional Park recently with rubbish dumping, soil removal, erosion from trail bike activity authorities turn a blind eye to, the axing of saplings and native scrub for cubby houses etc. The culling of feral goats in the Whipstick has not eventuated despite many sightings and reports over recent years.

Thirdly with respect to Jeff Hartland's Eucalyptus Distillery. This in my opinion is an absolute national treasure and part of the folk culture of the Whipstick and of national importance. If he is having trouble surviving with GST (I have no doubt that's true) and other factors do something to help him.

It seems at times the powers to be and inappropriate legislation and regulations create polarization when with a little common sense and consideration a good relationship can be achieved between various persuasions. The old landowners and their descendants in the Whipstick have always had a pretty good attitude and have helped in their own way in protecting property and Whipstick public lands.

It is true one or two of Mr Hartland's allotments is a key corridor block in the central Whipstick,

but as he says himself, most of his activity is on the fringe of the Whipstick. The key blocks are a matter of his business and even if utilised for eucalyptus harvesting still offer a reasonable corridor within the park. If the opportunity were there for them to be added to the park it would be of value but it should be a matter of amicable transaction and purchase, not acquisition.

In contrast I do believe that all public land should have eucalyptus harvesting relocated from what should be National Park.

However a four to six year phase out would be unrealistic unless circumstances have greatly changed. The old Forests Commission Officers of the 1970's and a previous Eucalyptus Distiller(R.Wellstead) who operated locally and at West Wyalong indicated it took 20 years for commercially planted Blue Mallee to mature sufficiently for harvesting.

Research in Western Australia (Murdoch University) has shown the enormous value of replanting high oil yielding physiological forms of mallee. These were cloned from selected roadside remnants and replanted in neighbouring wheat paddocks whose productivity had declined. This was due to a rising water table and resultant saltation as a consequence of over clearing of natural vegetation. One has only to visit the West to be dismayed by the total desert created by saltation of both good farmland and natural streams and adjacent bushland. The factors might be different in the East but revegetation of some marginal cleared land in a similar manner has to be positive.

The result in WA with the commercial planting of oil producing mallees in the despoiled wheatlands was that the water table lowered. As a result the salt problem was arrested and large quantities of good quality environment friendly eucalyptus oil was produced for industry in Perth. This replaced the particularly toxic engine degreasing solvent trichloroethane.

There is much land around Bendigo that should not have been cleared and that Council or appropriate planners looking at carbon units etc. could encourage to be replanted with blue mallee. It would be a long term project and something that should be subject to local University research.

In the meantime we need a Greater Bendigo National Park and we need Jeff Hartland and his very important distillery to survive. Surely something positive can be achieved without any need for playing off between ideals.

News from the BFNC Garden in October

Author: Matthew Comer

The garden, as always, is very colourful and much is happening. The Bendigo Wax plant near the entrance still has a few flowers left. It is worth noting that it, and some others such as Cat's Claw (*Grevillea alpina)*, and Whipstick Westringia (*Westringia crassifolia*) have now been flowering continuously for three months or more – how many common exotic garden plants put on such a show with no extra water, fertiliser, pruning etc ? Quite a few other local plants also have very long flowering periods in the garden. Other plants flowering in October are:

Arthropodium minus	Vanilla Lily
Arthropodium strictum	Chocolate Lily
Austrodanthonia sp.	Wallaby Grass
Austrostipa elegantissima	Feather Spear Grass
Austrostipa scabra	Rough Spear Grass
Billardiera cymosa	Sweet Apple Berry
Brachyscome multifida	Cut Leaf Daisy
Bracteantha viscosa	Sticky Everlasting
Bursaria spinosa	Sweet Bursaria
Calytrix tetragona	Common Fringe Myrtle
Carpobrotus modestus	Inland Pigface
C. apiculatum	Common Everlasting
C. semipapposum	Clustered Everlasting
Correa sp.	
Dianella revoluta	Flax Lily
Eucalyptus viridis	Green Mallee
Glischocarpus sp.	Golden Pennants
Gonocarpus sp.	
Goodenia benthamiana	Clasping Goodenia
Grevillea alpina	Cats Claw
Hardenbergia violacea	Sarsparilla
Kennedia prostrata	Running Postman
Lignum marginale	Native Flax
Lomandra longifolia	Spiny-headed Mat Rush
Melaleucal decussata	Totem Poles
Melaleuca wilsonii	Violet Honeymyrtle
Minuria interrigima	Smooth Minuria
Olearia teretifolia	Cypress Daisy Bush
Ozothamnus obcordatus	Grey Everlasting
Pelargonium australe	Storks Bill
Pelargonium rodneyanum	Magenta Storks Bill
Philotheca verrucosus	Bendigo Wax
Pomaderris paniculosa ssp.*poriculosa*	Inland Pomaderris
Prostanthera denticulata	Rough mint Bush
Themeda triandra	Kangaroo Grass
Westringia crassifolia	Whipstick Westringia
Pimelea humilis	Common Rice Flower
Prostanthera aspalathoides	Scarlet Mint Bush
Pycnosorus chryanthus	Golden Billy Buttons
Wahlenbergia sp.	Bluebell
Westringia eremicola	Slender Westringia

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2001

GENERAL ACCOUNT - INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS		EXPENDITURES		
Membership	3411.03	Whirrakee Production		1512.48
Subscription	154.55	Whirrakee Postage		620.96
Donation	85.05	Subscription		194.82
Interest	377.26	Auditor		109.09
Wildflower Show	587.15	Wildflower Show		493.58
Herbarium	300.00	Insurance		164.94
Habitat Boxes	1754.55	Habitat Boxes		1759.09
Trap Hire	100.00	Hall Maintenance		789.09
Bendigo National Park Group	115.00	Herbarium		863.64
GST	562.12	Stationery, Printing		140.33
	7446.71	Garden		7.73
		Conservation Donation		300.00
		Bendigo National Park Group		19.09
		Australian Taxation Office		296.00
		Bank Charges		32.99
		GST		426.66
		Miscellaneous:		
		Plant Survey	1145.00	
		P.O.Box Rental	45.00	
		B.O.C.A. Tapes	57.27	
Deficit for Year	1656.50	Ladder	125.45	1372.72
	$9103.21			$9103.21
Bank Balance at 1 August 2000		**Bank Balance at 31 July 2001**		
Cheque A/c	4645.93	Cheque A/c		2989.43
Term Deposit	8972.95	Term Deposit		8972.95
				11962.38
		Deficit for Year		1656.50
	$13618.88			$13618.88

I have examined the documents and records supporting the above statements of receipts and expenditures and I am able to report that in my opinion the statement of receipts and expenditures as shown, fairly reflects the transactions that have taken place in the bank accounts of the Bendigo Field Naturalists Club Inc. during the financial year ended 31 July 2001.

D.D.Wright C.P.A.

Auditor

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2001

PUBLICATION ACCOUNT - INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS		EXPENDITURES	
Sales:		Book Postage	6.14
Wildflowers of Bendigo	1407.81	Bank Charges	6.83
Eucalypts of Bendigo	533.45	GST	0.61
Birds of Bendigo	732.00		13.58
Orchids of Bendigo	924.37		
Interest	1350.92		
Postage	26.94		
Donation	6.00		
Overpayment Refund	25.00		
GST	352.32	To Investment A/c	6500.00
	5358.81		
Deficit for Year	1154.77		
	$6513.58		$6513.58
Bank Balance at 1 August 2000		**Bank Balance at 31 July 2001**	
Cheque A/c	5731.02	Cheque A/c	4576.25
Term Deposit	23556.84	Term Deposit	23556.84
To Investment A/c	6500.00	Term Deposit	6500.00
		Deficit for Year	1154.77
	$35787.86		$35787.86

I have examined the documents and records supporting the above statements of receipts and expenditures and I am able to report that in my opinion the statement of receipts and expenditures as shown, fairly reflects the transactions that have taken place in the bank accounts of the Bendigo Field Naturalists Club Inc. during the financial year ended 31 July 2001.

D.D.Wright C.P.A.
Auditor

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2001

MEETING HALL ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS		EXPENDITURES	
Hall Hire	1505.50	City of Greater Bendigo	4091.50
Donations	2400.00	Bank Charges	7.40
Interest	10.09	GST	53.43
GST	158.50		
	4074.09		
Deficit for Year	78.24		
	$4152.33		$4152.33
Bank Balance at 1 August 2000		Bank Balance at 31 July 2001	
Cheque A/c	1846.45	Cheque A/c	1768.21
		Deficit for Year	78.24
	$1846.45		$1846.45

I have examined the documents and records supporting the above statements of receipts and expenditures and I am able to report that in my opinion the statementof receipts and expenditures as shown, fairly reflects the transactions that have taken place in the bank accounts of the Bendigo Field Naturalists Club Inc. during the financial year ended 31 July 2001.

D.D.Wright C.P.A.
Auditor

Ted Errey Nature Circuit

Author: Alison Watson
Secretary Geelong Field Naturalists Club Inc.

The Geelong Field Naturalists Club and the Friends of the Brisbane Ranges would be pleased if you would join a gathering of naturalists and friends at the Brisbane Ranges National Park Stoney Creek picnic area, to celebrate the opening of the Ted Errey Nature Circuit by Geoff Howard, Parliamentary Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, on Sunday 11th November, 2001.

Ted Errey was a prominent member of the Geelong Field Naturalists Club who took great interest in the Brisbane Ranges where he carried out ongoing botanical surveys. He was a patient and influential teacher of natural history.

Those attending are encouraged to walk sections of the circuit before and/or after the gathering,which will assemble at 12 noon for lunch at 12.30pm. Copies of the circuit's interpretive signs will be on display and the opening formalities will occur during this period. Locals will be at Redbeak and Stoney Creek car parks to meet visitors from 10.00am.

If the weather is unfavourable the display, lunch and formalities will be held in the Staughton Vale hall (see map below, but you need turn your head...).

To help make this gathering a friendly interactive bush outing, we would appreciate you bringing a plate of food and flask of hot water which will be placed on th picnic tables for all to share. Also please bring chairs, mugs and name tags.
Tea, coffee, milk, sugar, plates, cutlery etc. will be provided. Your earliest return of the attached reply slip will be a great help.

Enquiries – Nola Haines 5278 2658, Dick Southcombe 5243 3916.

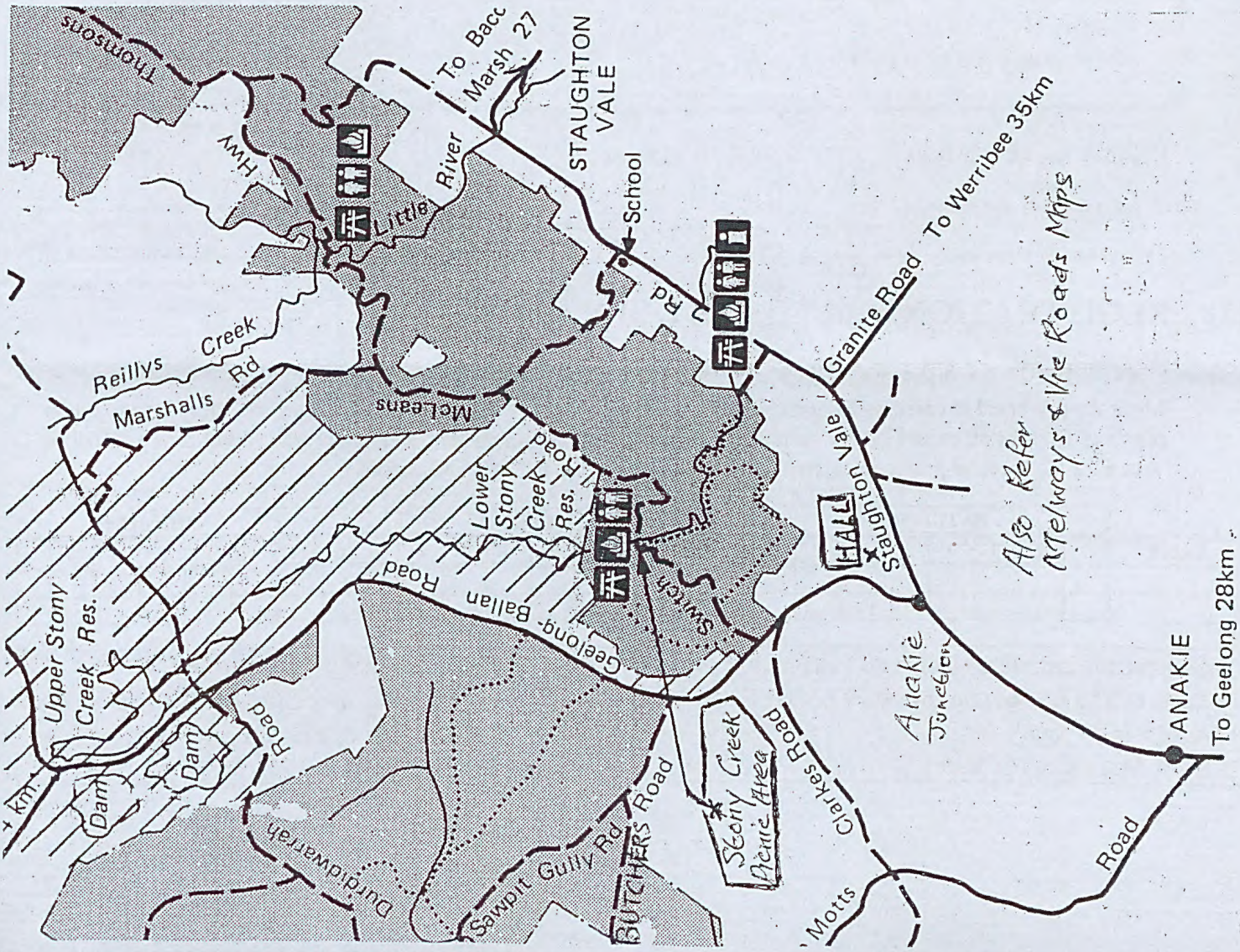
We look forward to meeting you on Sunday 11th November.

.....

RSVP to GFNC, POBox 1047, Geelong 3220

I/We will attend the Ted Errey Nature Circuit gathering on Sunday 11th November and will bring a plate of.....to share for lunch.

.....



VOLCANOES AND MINERAL SPRINGS OF CENTRAL VICTORIA

VFNCA CAMP AT CAMPASPE DOWNS 8th to 11th MARCH 2002

First Circular

REGISTRATION FORM

Contact names: .....Male/Female

..... Male/Female

Address:.....Postcode: .....

Phone: .....email: .....Club:.....

(1) ACCOMMODATION BOOKING

Please Tick desired square

BUNKHOUSE (72 people)	☐ Lower Bunk	☐ Upper Bunk
With whom would you like to share a room (we'll do our best!)		
1	3	
2	4	

CABINS (Limited)

☐ Family Unit. Names and ages of children. _____

_____

☐ Double Bed

☐ Do you have special needs for an *en suite*?

If Cabins are already booked, will you accept Bunkhouse? **YES/NO**

FURTHER COMMENTS? _____

_____

(2) REGISTRATION FOR MEALS ONLY ☐

(3) EXCURSION SELECTION

Mark the preferred excursions for each person attending the camp. (See back of information sheet for excursion numbers.) **List** an excursion for each day with a **1** (for first preference), and one or more additional excursions with a **2** (for second preference), remembering that there are half day excursions.

	SATURDAY								SUNDAY											MONDAY					
NAME	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6

Please return completed form and cheque for **deposit of $30 per person** by **NOVEMBER 19th** to:
Make cheques payable to:
'FNCV MARCH CAMPOUT'

Keith Marshall
Field Naturalists Club of Victoria
Locked Bag 3, Post Office
BLACKBURN VIC 3130.

EXCURSION INFORMATION

At this stage the following range of excursions has been planned. Each excursion, numbered below for booking purposes, is held in the general area depicted on the accompanying map. The details below include **excursion duration using private cars** to travel to general location. Twenty people per group, unless otherwise stated. The final scheduling of excursions will take account of people's preferences indicated on their Registration Form (attached). More details later.

SATURDAY

Full day excursions

1 **Fauna Survey Group (FSG) Excursion to Wombat State Forest.** Checking hair tubes for Spotted-tailed Quoll hairs along wallaby trails through thick bush (about 5km). Leaders: Mike Johnson, Russell Thompson and Paul Webb.

2 **Birdwatching** with Greg Binns, Ballarat FNC - Recording for Bird Atlas

3 **Geology** with Noel Schleiger. A round trip of about 100 km by private vehicles to Mt Macedon, Camel's Hump, and Conglomerate Gully (Riddells Creek) in the eastern half of the Macedon Range.

4 **Logging in Wombat State Forest** - Marcus Ward.

Morning

5 **Aquatic Invertebrates.** Sample by dip net local waterways and, using microscopes, hopefully we will identify most specimens to Family level. Ian Endersby, of FNCV & Entomological Society. **(12-15** people)

6 **Eucalypts of the Kyneton Area** with Ern Perkins, Castlemaine FNC.

Afternoon

7 **Pit-trap Sampling of Various Habitats** with Ian Endersby. Set traps overnight and see if there are any differences in catch - beetles, spiders, ants and others. Bring a hand lens. **(12-15)**

8 **Lichen Identification** with Sharon Ford who has just finished her PhD on rainforest lichens.

SUNDAY

Full day excursions

1 **Creswick Forests Past and Present:** AM walk with Ron Hately of Cres. Forestry, Uni of Melb., along La Gerche Trail looking at remnants of 19th Century exotic timber plantations; PM join Adrian Morton, Cres. FN, in search of birds & orchids in local forest.

2 **Central Victorian Mineral Springs** with George Broadway, Castlemaine FNC. Over 90 springs exist in Daylesford/Hepburn Springs and in Kyneton, Taradale, Castlemaine and Blackwood areas. During this round trip of 90 km through delightful country we will sample the waters at some of the latter areas. Opportunities for birdwatching and botany.

3 **Birdwatching** with Susan Myers, a member of Birds Australia, BOCA and FNCV.

4 **Volcanic History and Geology of Central Victoria** with Dr Julian Hollis. Sites in the local area dealing with the volcanic history, gold and heavy minerals --- the approach will be light hearted. Bring hand lens, geological pick and newspaper to wrap specimens.

5 **Geology** with Noel Schleiger - **Graptolites** of Bullengarook and Breakneck Hill (Toolern Vale north).

6 **Botany** with Gretna Weste Botanist, ex-Univ. of Melb. There are some interesting reserves in the area, further details later.

Morning

7 **Entomology** with Ian Endersby. Using Pan Traps of different colours we will examine catch under microscope to see if there's any preferences by different Orders. **(12-15)**

8 **Fauna Survey Group** - 6.30-10am. An early start to this excursion to check bat traps and Elliot cages for native mammals. A light breakfast will be available to camp participants at 6am.

Afternoon

9 **Insect Behaviour** with Ian Endersby. After brief intro. we will observe a particular insect then report back with our observations and deductions.

10 **FSG.** A pleasant walk through bush to check 'reptile lounges' for mammals and reptiles whilst keeping a lookout for various tracks and traces.

11 **EVENING. Light Trapping** with Ian Endersby. After dark we will set up two light sheets and see whether we attract different species to fluorescent or ultra-violet light.

MONDAY (Morning excursions followed by lunch in the Kyneton Botanic Gardens)

1 **The Insect Fauna of a Single Tree** with Ian Endersby. We will use beating and direct searching to make a census of insects of a single tree. We will not identify below Order. Bring a hand lens. **(12-15)**

2 **Fauna Survey Group** - 6.30-10am. An early start to this excursion to check bat traps and Elliot cages for native mammals. Light breakfast at 6am.

3 **Lichen Identification** with Sharon Ford.

4 **Geological Excursion** with Noel Schleiger, to see the spectacular columns at Trentham Falls, and the breached crater of Mt Franklin.

5 **Birdwatching** with Merilyn Grey - There are some interesting Reserves in the area, such as Daylesford Regional Park, Black Hill Reserve, Bald Hill and Mt Macedon. Details later.

6 **Botany Excursion** - A/A. Details later.

Diary-

The General, Bird Observers Group and Mammal Survey Group meetings are held at the Golden Square Senior Citizens Building, Old High Street, Golden Square, unless otherwise indicated.

General Meeting

Wednesday, November, 14
7.00pm. In November Jane Cleary will conduct a workshop on the 'Anatomy of a Flower'. Bring a large flower and a hand lens.
8.00pm Gary Cheers from W.R.I.N. will talk about 'Wildlife Shelters and Wildlife Rescue'.

Wednesday, December 12
Christmas Dinner
At the Hall, Bring Salad, Casserole or Dessert. Come early, to sit down at 6:30, and visit with friends for as long as you like.

Excursions

A Wildflower Drive Walk is planned for Friday 23rd November.
Meet in the picnic area, just off Strathfieldsaye Road at 10am.
BYO Drink.
For details ring John Green 54436756.
A short report on the October excursions will appear in next month's Whirrakee.

Bird Observer Group

Sunday November 11 Bullock Creek
Meet 9am - in Lockwood Road, Kangaroo Flat lights (carpool) or 9:30am - Lockwood Picnic/Sports Reserve (car shuffle)
The locals are enthusiastic about the bird life along Bullock Creek, and are keen to share it with us. We will have access through private property along the creek for a couple of kilometres. The walk will finish at the Picnic/Sports Reserve where people will be able to utilize the BBQ and continue bird watching and chatting. Junior birdos welcome.
Contact Kerrie Norris 54478017.

Wildlife Rescue & Information Network Inc.

W.R.I.N. is an organisation dedicated to the care of orphaned, sick or injured native animals.
It is fully endorsed by the Dept of Natural Resources and Environment.
Please call our Emergency Number for Help for Fauna in Need. Phone: 0419 356433

Picnic in the Wellsford Forest

Sunday, 4th November
at Maher's Dam off Plant Road, between 10am. and 4pm. BBQ sausages, bread, salad, tea coffee, milk will be provided.
Bring your own cup, hot water, drinks and any extra food needed.
Wellsford Watch will conduct tours at 11am, 2pm, 3pm
Lunch will be between 12noon and 2pm.
All welcome.

Garden Working Bee

The next Garden Working Bee will be on
Wednesday, 7th November at 2pm.
Please come and help us clean up the garden and remove weeds. Bring your own tools if you have any.

Clean up of Clubrooms

This yearly (very social) event will be on
Saturday, 15th December, starting at 9am.
Please bring gloves rags and dusters and what ever else you think will be needed

Permaculture Bendigo

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm in the Gravel Hill Gardens office building 65-71 Mundy Street Bendigo

Wednesday 14th November
Bush Foods Ryan Young will show us some of the Bushfoods that can be grown in the local area, and also how we can use them.

VFNCA 2002 March Camp Volcanoes and Mineral Springs of Central Victoria

The first circular for this camp has been received and pages 2 and 3 are printed on page 13 and 14 of this issue. The dates are 8-11th March 2002 and the camp is held at the Campaspe Downs Country Resort, 7km SW of Kyneton. It is hosted by the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria. Due to space restrictions in this edition, the first page of the circular which contains general information on accommodation and organisation and the map of the locality are not included. These will be included at a later date. Please ring Sabine Wilkens on 54 432797 (ah) or 54 447370 (bh) to get a copy of the complete circular if necessary.
I believe, registration is due on November 19.